

Review of “How to Programmers Ask and Answer Questions on the Web”

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Purpose

- Which questions are answered well?
- Which questions remain unanswered?
- Analyze data from Stack Overflow specifically

Conclusions

- Novice questions were answered the most
- Effective at code reviews
- Most common questions are how-tos and questions about unexpected behavior

Limitations

- Study was conducted in 2010
 - The methodology can be useful, but the results may be different due to Stack Overflow being relatively new in 2010.
- They didn't write about their other 3 questions in this paper
 - Who answers questions and why?
 - How the the best answers selected?
 - How does a Q&A website contribute to the body of software development?

Other Papers to Read

- Agichtein et. al. “Finding High Quality Content on Social Media”
 - “Introduces a framework that is able to separate high quality items from the rest”
- Shah and Pamerantz “Evaluating and Predicting Answer Quality in Community Q&A”
 - User’s profile can be used to predict content quality